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Two Charged with UCLA Sorority Student's Slaying

Two men were charged today with the murder of a 21-year-old UCLA student whose body was found after a fire at her Westwood apartment last week, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Alberto Hinojosa Medina (dob 9/15/93) and Eric Marquez (dob 5/12/93) are scheduled to be arraigned after 2 p.m. today in Department W30 at the Airport Branch of the Los Angeles County Superior Court. They are charged in case SA091348.

Deputy District Attorney Victor Avila with the Major Crimes Division is prosecuting the case.

Medina, of Fresno, is charged with burglarizing an apartment in the 10900 block of Roebling Street on Sept. 21 and then entering a second apartment where he allegedly fatally stabbed Andrea Del Vesco and set her apartment on fire before fleeing.

He is charged with one count of capital murder with the special circumstance of murder during a burglary and a special allegation that he personally used a knife; one count of arson of a dwelling; and two counts of first-degree burglary.

Marquez, a student at UCLA, is charged with one count of murder and two counts of first-degree burglary.

Del Vesco's body was discovered by firefighters inside her apartment. She was a fourth-year UCLA student from Austin, Texas, and a member of the Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Prosecutors will ask that Medina be held without bail and that bail for Marquez be set at \$1.1 million. The special circumstance makes Medina eligible for the death penalty. Prosecutors will decide later whether to seek death.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department's Robbery-Homicide Division.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.